

*Amendments*

*In the Claims:*

Please *cancel claim 58* without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter therein.

Please *add new claim 68*, provided below. Please substitute claims 45-57 and 59-67 provided below, for claims 45-57 and 59-67 of the application as previously presented. A marked-up version of claims 45-57 and 59-67, which shows all of the changes that have been made to the claims, is submitted herewith with additions double underlined and deletions shown in ~~strikethrough text~~.

45. (Once amended) A method, comprising:  
receiving a haptic-feedback signal at a haptic-feedback device, the haptic-feedback device being configured to provide input data to an associated graphical environment; and  
filtering sensor data based on the haptic-feedback signal to produce the input data operative to reduce visual disturbance in the associated graphical environment.

46. (Once amended) The method of claim 45, wherein the input data is used with the associated graphical environment.

47. (Once amended) The method of claim 45, further comprising determining a position of a graphical object in the associated graphical environment based on the input data.

48. (Once amended) The method of claim 45, further comprising communicating the input data to a computer.

49. (Once amended) The method of claim 45, further comprising outputting haptic feedback based on the haptic-feedback signal, the outputting haptic feedback and the filtering the sensor data being accomplished with a processor local to the haptic-feedback device.

50. (Once amended) The method of claim 45, further comprising outputting haptic feedback based on the haptic-feedback signal, the outputting haptic feedback and the filtering the sensor data being accomplished by a computer configured to control the associated graphical environment, the computer configured to be in communication with the haptic-feedback device.

51. (Once amended) The method of claim 45, wherein the filtering the sensor data includes filtering the sensor data only when a filtering process is enabled.

52. (Once amended) The method of claim 45, wherein the outputting haptic feedback is configured to be correlated with data values associated with an event in the associated graphical environment.

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53. (Once amended) The method of claim 45, wherein selectively filtering the sensor data includes filtering the sensor data only when the haptic-feedback signal causes the outputting of the haptic feedback.

54. (Once amended) The method of claim 46, wherein selectively filtering includes modifying the sensor data by sampling the sensor data over time according to a sampling rate.

55. (Once amended) The method of claim 45, wherein selectively filtering includes modifying the sensor data by time-averaging the sensor data to create filtered input data.

56. (Once amended) The method of claim 45, wherein selectively filtering includes modifying the sensor data to produce a held data value by sampling and holding a data value derived from the sensor data based on a movement of the haptic-feedback device without output of haptic feedback, the input data includes the held data value.

57. (Once amended) A method, comprising:

receiving a haptic-feedback signal at a haptic feedback device;

outputting haptic-feedback based on the haptic feedback signal;

filtering sensor data to produce input data according to a disturbance filter process associated with the haptic feedback, the sensor data being based on a movement of the haptic-feedback device during the outputting of the haptic feedback, the filtering of the input data operative to reduce disturbance in an associated graphical environment caused by the output of the haptic feedback; and

updating the associated graphical environment based on the input data.

59. (Once amended) The method of claim 57, wherein the filtering includes a driver running on a computer configured to be in communication with the haptic-feedback device.

60. (Once amended) The method of claim 57, wherein the disturbance filter process includes modifying the sensor data by sampling the sensor data over time according to a sampling rate.

61. (Once amended) The method of claim 57, wherein the disturbance filter process includes modifying the sensor data by time-averaging the sensor data.

62. (Once amended) The method of claim 57, wherein the disturbance filter process includes filtering the sensor data if the disturbance filter process is enabled.

63. (Once amended) The method of claim 57, further comprising updating a position of a graphical object in the associated graphical environment based on the input data.

64. (Once amended) The method of claim 57, wherein the outputting the haptic feedback is configured to be correlated with data values associated with an event in the associated graphical environment.

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65. (Once amended) An apparatus, comprising:  
an actuator configured to receive a haptic-feedback signal, the actuator configured to produce haptic feedback based on the haptic feedback signal;  
a sensor coupled to the actuator, the sensor configured to detect a movement of the sensor; and  
a filter configured to receive sensor data from the sensor and to provide input data to an associated graphical environment based on the haptic-feedback signal.

66. (Once amended) The apparatus of claim 65, wherein the sensor is configured to receive a command from a host computer in communication with the sensor to activate the filter.

67. (Once amended) The apparatus of claim 65, wherein the actuator is configured to output one of a plurality of haptic-feedback sensations.

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68. (New) The apparatus of claim 65, further comprising a memory coupled to the actuator and configured to store a plurality of haptic-feedback signals associated with the haptic-feedback sensations.

### **Remarks**

Reconsideration of this Application is respectfully requested. Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 45-57 and 59-68 are pending in the application, with claims 45, 57 and 65 being the independent claims.

### **Double Patenting Rejections**

Claims 45-67 were rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 9, 30 or 38 of U.S. Patent No. 5,999,168; claims 23-35 of U.S. Patent No. 6,310,605; claims 21-28 or 32 of U.S. Patent No. 6,020,876; and